Albany. April 4. '56.

My dear Doctor.

When I began to read your note, I thought that it contained all that you proposed to give me concerning your Father, & I confess I was somewhat startled at the brevity of the communication. I was quite satisfied, however, when I found it was only the earnest of better things to come. You are very kind to allow me to abridge, if I should find it necessary though I doubt not that I shall be glad to retain every thing you write, as I believe you understand very well the nature of my work. I am glad that you do not forget old Mr. Sampson; for I have nobody else to rely upon for a sketch of his character. If you will bear in mind that the narrative of his life is written, & that your letter is designed to exhibit his character, I nothing else. You will be sure to do the very thing I need; & it matters not whether you write your Father's reminiscences or your own. I take for granted that he was always a Congregational minister; though it occurs to me as barely possible that after he came to Hudson, he may have joined the Presbytery. I can doubtless ascertain by referring to the Minutes of the Gen. Assembly.

Very faithfully yours,

W B Sprague

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Rev. Dr Schaeffer

Apl. 4. 1856